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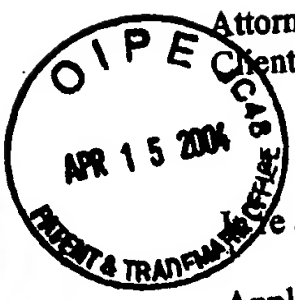
OFFICE OF FINANCE
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PATENT
BRANCH

Attorney's Docket No. 008378-0273286
Client Reference: US990172

2004 APR 21 PM 1:35

2004 APR 19 PM 3:5



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: NAOAKI KITAGAWA, SHINICHI OKABE
US PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/662,937
Filed: September 15, 2000

Group No.: 1753
Examiner: Steven H. Versteeg

Mail Stop 16
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR REFUND
(IMPROPER CHARGE OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNT)**

I. REFUND REQUEST

This is a request for a refund, with respect to the charge to Deposit Account 033975, shown on the statement dated March 8, 2004, for the above-identified application.

II. FEES CHARGED FOR WHICH REFUND REQUESTED

Adjustment date: 05/18/2004 EEKUNAY1
2/8/2004 JBALINAH 00000133 033975 09662937
1 FB:1251 110.00 CR

**AMOUNT OF
REFUND
REQUESTED
\$110.00**

Extension of term (first month)

\$438.00

Excess claims

\$548.00

Adjustment date: 05/18/2004 EEKUNAY1
7/8/2004 JBALINAH 00000133 033975 09662937
C:1201 258.00 CR
C:1202 180.00 CR

TOTAL REFUND REQUESTED

III. EXPLANATION OF WHY CONTESTED CHARGE IS IN ERROR

In the response filed on February 4, 2004, the Application Transmittal form erroneously included a charge statement for the amount of \$548.00 for a one month extension of time, excess independent claims and excess dependent claims.

1. The Office Action was mailed on November 26, 2003 with a response date due of February 26, 2004. Applicants filed the response with the U.S. Patent Office on February 4, 2004, within the period of time for response. Therefore, no extension of time fee was necessary and the fee charged should be refunded.
2. In the amendment submitted on February 4, 2004, the total claims present in the application after the amendments are 16 total claims (1 independent claim and 15

dependent) The highest number of claims previously presented in the application
were 70 total claims. Applicants Amendment/Response Transmittal erroneously
listed an excess claim fee due for the application.


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IV. MANNER OF REFUND

Please make refund by crediting Account No. 033975.

Date: 04/15/04

Tel. No.: (703) 905-2011
Customer No.: 00909



Signature of Practitioner
Glenn T. Barrett
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